

25p

THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF WIGAN ATHLETIC

SPRINGFIELD SCENE



Saturday, 21st February, 1981 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m.
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- MANSFIELD TOWN

Today's match is sponsored by Vista Autos (Frank Hampson Group)
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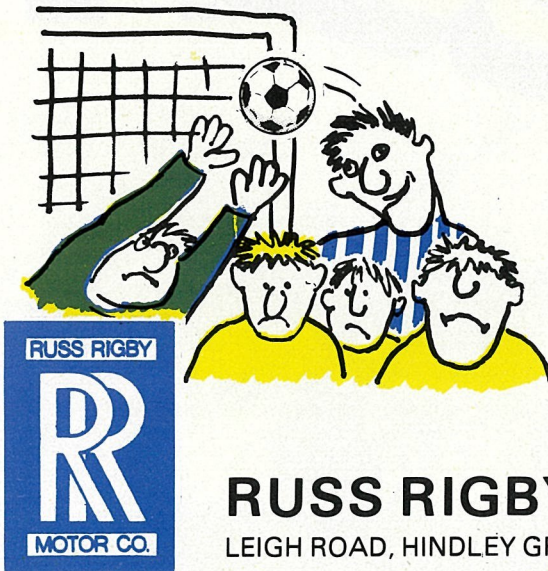
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MY POINT OF VIEW

EXETER City's victory over one-time cup giants Newcastle United on Wednesday evening is far more significant and symbolic an occurrence than a one-off cup success

for a modest club which, by the nature of things, is going to find life in the demanding world of soccer more rigorous than relaxing.

For a few brief days, the minnow will take great satisfaction in tweaking the nose of his superior; the beautiful city of Exeter will be alive with anticipation, good-will, pride, and, above all else, hope for the future. At a time when the country is fighting to stem the flood-tide of economic recession, and thousands of families face up to the need of having to adjust

their life styles to accommodate redundancies and unemployment, down in Devon hearts will beat that little bit faster, there will be that extra bounce in the stride of players and citizens alike, while old men and children will dream the impossible dream.

At the end of the day, as in individual life itself, there can be only one winner of the struggle, whatever the joys and heartaches along the way. Momentarily, life at St. James Park, Exeter, will personify comradeship and offer new hope. It is that hope, however, which makes man's very existence meaningful and elevates that noble virtue to a position of prominence in these troubled days.

J.T.S.

Front page photo — Steve McAdam in determined mood as he challenges a Port Vale opponent for the ball. (Photograph by courtesy of David Cookson).

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GREAT NAMES FROM THE PAST

BY HAROLD ASHURST

MOVING on in our series of famous players from past seasons, we arrive with the illustrious Allan Brown team of the early sixties, and one of its most popular members, Les Campbell.

Les, in fact, was born in Wigan and was at Springfield Park as a teenager about the period of the famous Ted Goodier side in the middle 50's, but he played just thirteen games before his impressive performances took the eye of a number of clubs. It was no surprise when the gutsy little winger was snapped up by Preston North End. Les was to stay at Deepdale for seven seasons, before eventually moving on to Blackpool and Tranmere Rovers.

Before rejoining Wigan in 1963, Les Campbell had gained the considerable experience which was to make him a valuable member of Allan Brown's well organised and efficient professional team. He is remembered by Wigan fans as a tricky, skilful, hard working and brave winger who made a great personal contribution to the team which won the Cheshire League Championship.

Les did not score many goals, but as he commented recently, "I made a heck of a lot for other people".

His stay at Springfield Park was little more than 12 months, before he was transferred to arch-rivals Altrincham who were then managed by a certain Mr. Freddie Pye!!! He stayed with "The Robins" for three seasons, during which time Altrincham gained championship and runners-up honours.

Since hanging up his boots, Les has been a keen supporter at Springfield Park, although he did come back in the late 1960's to help out Kenny Banks when Wigan were managerless for a short spell. He was a season ticket holder at the age of seven and is presently a share-holder. Les was absolutely delighted when Latics got in the Football League and told me "I could have run from Lands End to John-o-Groats, and I was especially pleased for my parents who had long held the ambition to see Wigan Athletic in the Football League". What very few people actually know is that Les offered to do just that to publicise Wigan Athletic's entry into the League, but the offer was not taken up!

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by Fred Eyre

MARK WIGNALL'S league debut in the 3 - 1 win over Darlington last week was pleasing for me because it proved to everybody, especially the other reserve players, that if you are playing well in the second team, you will not be denied your opportunity in the league side.

This applies, even more so, at this stage of the season now that Manager Ian McNeill has stated that he intends to give our young players a chance.

He illustrated this in mid-week, when, as Davie Glenn trotted on as substitute for the

injured Bobby Hutchinson, against Hereford United, it meant that we had three eighteen year olds on the field at the same time as he linked up with Micky Quinn and young Mark in what must have been our youngest team since entering the Football League.

It proves that the Club is moving along the correct lines for the future, because there are a number of promising youngsters in the pipeline.

Mark in fact, began the season in the third team, in fact he played there only a matter of weeks ago, but his form in the reserves in the past three or four games has been outstanding and he thoroughly deserved his chance. He was particularly conspicuous in our fine win over Crewe Alexandra the previous week. We, in keeping with the Boss's instructions regarding "giving youth it's chance", played virtually our Youth side, and gave our experienced opponents a lesson in passing, support play and good old fashioned enthusiasm and a desire to win.

Mark Wignall's goal capped a fine performance, and goals by Davie Glenn and Jim Oliver completed the score.

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AT A time when our fund-raising continues to gather pace, we are pleased to announce another special activity organised by the Football Club's Directors — A Ladies' Evening and Dinner Dance on Thursday, 12th March, 1981. This event, following closely upon the successful Sportsmen's Evening, promises to be quite a night out for gentlemen and ladies alike. The evening will again be centred at Tiffany's, Standishgate, Wigan, and the 18-piece Big Band Sound of Ron Hayes will provide the music for dancing until 1 a.m. After assembling at 7.30 p.m. for a prompt start to activities, at 8 p.m., guests can look forward to a good meal, good entertainment and good company at a cost of £10.00 per person, inclusive of V.A.T. Dress on this occasion will be optional. All proceeds from the evening, after the deduction of expenses, will be donated to the Ground Development Fund. Tickets are obtainable now from the Commercial Department Offices, during normal office hours. Buy now to avoid disappointment later.

We are delighted to acknowledge the sponsoring

of today's game by Vista Autos of Vista Road, Newton-le-Willows. Telephone No. Newton-le-Willows 4248. Vista are part of the F.G. Hampson Group, whose Managing Director, Frank Hampson is a native of Wigan, now living at Culcheth. Vista offer a good variety of new and used cars to purchasers drawn from a wide area to their conveniently situated show-room, easily reached by the motorway network. M.O.T. and servicing facilities for all makes of car are available, but the firm specialises in Ford and Mercedes.

Today's match ball has been kindly donated by Port Petroleum, 11 The Rise, Standish Lower Ground, Wigan. Telephone Nos. Wigan 31402/30417. Port Petroleum is a local company supplying quality oils at low prices, with an excellent delivery service that offers 7-day cover to all the community. No order is too small for this, company, who will help you to keep your prices down. For personal attention, contact John James.

Enjoy today's game.

Jack Sudworth, Commercial Manager.



Letterbox

Springfield Park, Wigan. 18th February, 1981.

Dear Readers,

This week's contribution is from our old friend, a regular programme subscriber, Mr. B.J. Armitage, who follows the club's fortunes from as far away as Chelmsford. No further comment is needed on my part, but perhaps space will be available in a future issue of the programme for Denis to contribute a reply.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon.

Jack Sudworth, Commerical Manager.

35 Keene Way, Galleywood, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 8NT.

Dear Mr. Sudworth,

I have just read a short article in my national newspaper, (which is accompanied by a photograph), about Torquay's recent appointment of a tracksuit Chaplain.

This prompted me to write to you concerning a matter which has been on my mind for some time. Do you think we could know a little more about our own Chaplain, Reverend D. Hall and possibly hear his views on the game and how he sees his role within a football club?

Yours sincerely,

Mr. B. J. Armitage.

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PHOTOFILE



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TOP LEFT:
Mark Wignall breaks clear of the opposition.

BOTTOM LEFT:
Mike Quinn prepares to take on the challenge of a Darlington defender.

TOP RIGHT:
Bobby Hutchinson gets in his cross in spite of the attentions of two opponents.

BOTTOM RIGHT:
Jeff Wright rides a desperate Darlington tackle.

Photographs by courtesy of Evening Post and Chronicle.



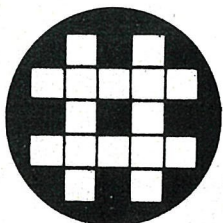
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PASTIME-FUNTIME



ON THE BALL No. 21

Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go.

World Cup Finals venue in 1962; One of the Robsons; Have a go at goal; Basic soccer bodies



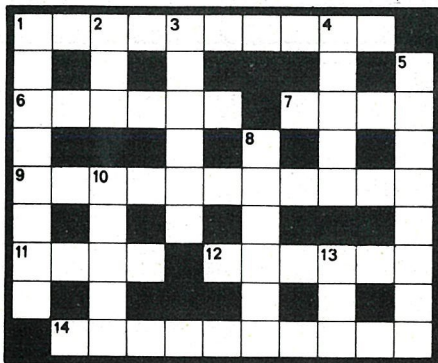
CLUB CLUB No. 21

Solve this cryptic club to identify a soccer side:

Sounds as if there'll be no roof!

MIXED DOUBLES No. 21

Rearrange the letters in each of the words **DOLLY** and **BLISTER** to find two team-mates.



SOCCER NINETY-NINER

No. 21 (Compiled by David Peck)

ACROSS

1. One of the clubs managed by Clough (10)
... and, of course, --- (6)
7. Former Sunderland skipper Bobby --- joined 1ac from Blackpool last summer (4)
9. Forward who had accumulated fifty goals for Sheffield Wednesday before he moved on to Oldham last season (6,5)
11. A shot to beat a keeper off his line (4)
12. 'Did the dirty' on an opponent (6)
14. For clubs or spectators it's the route to the big match! (7,3)

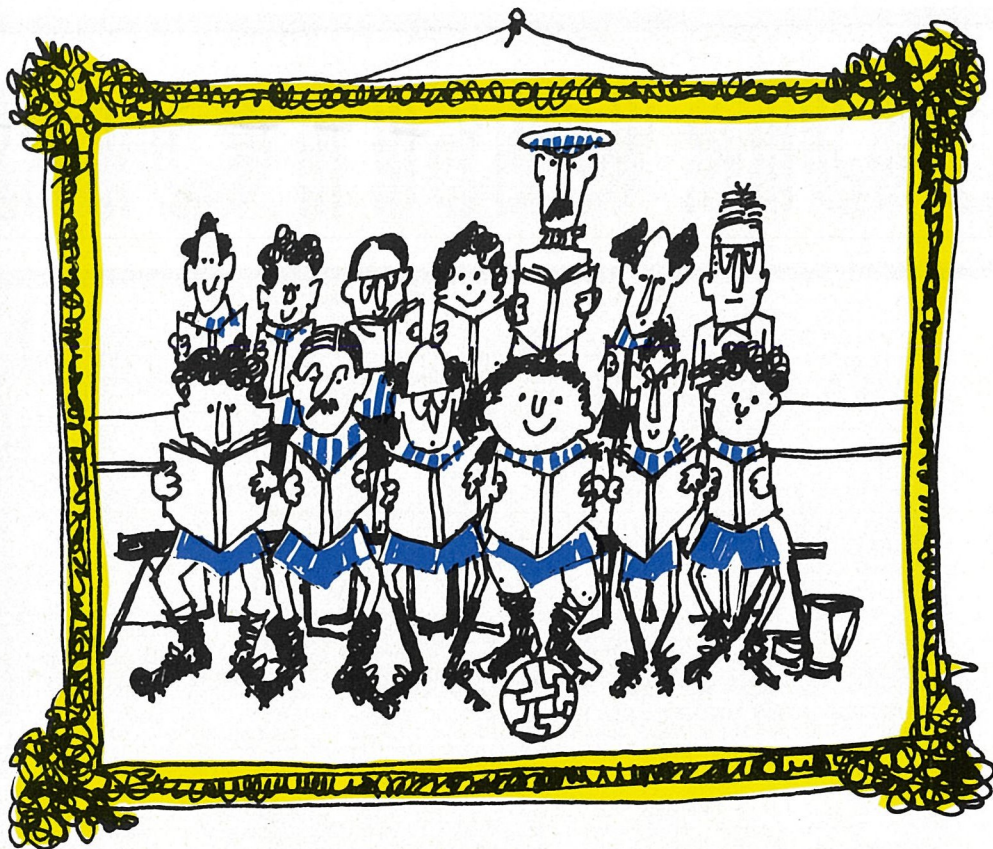
DOWN

1. John Wark has collected more than one in this season's UEFA Cup (3-5)
2. Cashley or Clarke (3)
3. Old Arsenal, Watford and England defender: --- Smith (6)
4. Former Manchester United midfielder Tom --- subsequently played nearly 200 League games for Southport before joining Tranmere (5)
5. Game with nothing at stake (8)
8. The score-line in all three of Manchester City's Football League Cup Finals before this season (3-3)
13. & 10. The opposite of 10ac (3,5)

1980/81 series
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Answers on Page 22.





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OUR VISITORS



MANSFIELD TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB 1980-1981 (Left to right) **Back Row:** B. Thompson (now with Maids Bradbury, A. Burrows, D. Caldwell, I. Jamieson, P. Saunders, D. Dawkins, I. Wood. **Middle Row:** J. Basford (Chief Scout), T. Austin (now with Huddersfield Town), G. King, R. Arnold, J. McClelland, K. Bird, R. Allen, J. Lee (Chief Coach). **Front Row:** Lathan, N. Hamilton, B. Pollard, M. Jones (Manager), S. Johnson, B. Thomson, N. Parkinson, L. McJannet.

WE ARE pleased to welcome the directors, management, staff and supporters of the Mansfield Town Football Club to Springfield Park this afternoon. Whether or not we will again meet our visitors in next year's League programme still remains to be seen, but "The Stags" must certainly be reckoned as candidates for promotion to the Third Division along with the almost home and dry Southend United and Lincoln City Football Clubs. Without doubt, the Field Mill ground, so well-appointed and organised, is worthy of staging a higher level of competition than somewhat basic Fourth Division soccer. In their illustrious career as members of the Football League, the Nottinghamshire club have enjoyed success at varying levels of competition, with championship honours gained at Third and Fourth Division stages, and excellent cup-runs in the F.A.

Cup and Football League Cup competitions. Some of the great names of soccer have graced the managerial chair in the post-Second World War era, and Mansfield Town supporters have come to expect a high level of skilful and competitive play from their heroes. This year's side could well bring further honour to the club by regaining the Third Division status so recently lost.

Although striker Terry Austin has left for pastures new, "The Stags" are still managing to put together useful results both at home and away and the Wigan Athletic side will find the going far from easy today against opposition which pushes forward positively at every opportunity. Even the Mansfield Town defenders occasionally drive forward with pace and purpose to lend impetus to the attack, and our players will have to be fully aware at all times if the challenge is to be

contained. Whatever today's game, we wish for the final few games of the Season, and we look to them on many other occasions. Certainly, if our clash in the Cup games, and the other fixtures, are anything to go by, spectators at today's match will witness a competitive and worthy of two clubs attempting to play their way.

PREVIOUS LEAGUE

Season 1980/1981
27th Sept. 1980 Mansfield
H.T. Score
Scorers
Pollard,
Wigan

MANSFIELD TOWN F.C.

**Ground: Field Mill,
Mansfield.
Year Formed: 1905**

Football League Record:
1931 Elected to Third Division (South)
1932-1960 Member of Third Division
1960-1963 Member of Fourth Division
1963-1972 Member of Third Division
1972-1975 Member of Fourth Division
1975-1977 Member of Third Division
1977-1978 Member of Second Division
1978-1980 Member of Third Division
1980-1981 Member of Fourth Division



(stone), B. Foster, P.
ut), A. Bircumshaw,
t Row: A. Mann, J.

PEN PICTURES

ROD ARNOLD — **Goalkeeper** — Rod was signed from Wolves in June 1973, after being with the Club on two loan periods. A very agile keeper and quite experienced for one so young. Made 43 first team appearances last season.

KEVIN BIRD — **Centre half** — Signed from Doncaster Rovers on being released in July 1972. Got into the side midway through season 72-73 and has been a regular player ever since. Took over the captaincy four years ago.

BARRY FOSTER — **Full back** — Signed professional forms in July 1970, after being an amateur with the Club for two seasons. Was capped four times for the England Youth Team in 1969. Now made the left back position his own. Unfortunately he broke his leg in April 1977, but he came back and once again established himself as a regular left back.

IAN WOOD — **Back four player** — A youngster who joined the Club as an apprentice on leaving school. Signed full time professional in June 1976. Made a number of first team appearances last season.

JOHN MCCLELLAND — John was signed from Bangor City in May 1978, for a small fee. Started his career with Portadown in Ireland from whom he joined Cardiff City as a young professional. Left Cardiff and joined Bangor two seasons ago. Was regular centre half last season and voted Player of the Season by the supporters. Also won Irish International Caps last season.

RUSSELL ALLEN — **Striker** — Russell was signed from Tranmere Rovers in July 1978, for a fee of £25,000. Son of Ronnie Allen former England and W.B.A. forward. Russell was a regular first team player last season and was a frequent scorer.

DAVID CALDWELL — A young striker signed from a Scottish Junior side last June. Very sharp around the box with a good shot in either foot. A very promising future is forecast for David.

LES McJANNET — A young Scottish player who was signed professionally after extensive trial period. A full back of great promise who got into the side towards the end of last season.

ARTHUR MANN — Signed from Shrewsbury Town in September 1979. He was previously a record signing for Manchester City from Hibs. From City he went to Notts County and was a regular first team player for many seasons. Arthur can play either mid-field or full back.

BRIAN POLLARD — Brian was signed from Watford in January 1980, where he had been a regular member of their very successful promotion side. Previously with York City.

ADRIAN BURROWS — **Centre half** — Adrian is a local boy who has come through the junior teams. Son of the famous Horace Burrows (England International). Everyone predicts for him a great future in the game.

BRIAN THOMSON — Fast running winger who was signed from West Ham in July 1979. Made a number of first team appearances last season.

DEREK DAWKINS — A full back who was a regular first team player last season. Previously with Leicester City. A youngster with a very promising future.

NOEL PARKINSON — **Midfield** — Born Hull. Signed for Ipswich Town from school and made his first team debut at 19 in the UEFA Cup. Signed from Ipswich in July 1980. Ambitious to go back into the First Division.

NEVILLE HAMILTON — Neville is a youngster with a lot of potential. Played a number of first team games last season. Signed from Leicester City for a fee of £25,000 in January, 1979.

JOHN LATHAN — **Midfield** — Signed from Portsmouth in September, 1979 for his second spell with the Club. He was signed initially from Sunderland F.C. and then transferred to Carlisle from there he went to Portsmouth. A very hard working midfielder with good skills.

STEVE JOHNSON — **Full back** — A local youngster who has come up through the junior teams. Made one first team appearance last season.

ANDY BIRCUMSHAW — **Striker** — A local boy signed in June, 1980 after a trial period. Strong in the air and two good feet.

COLIN KING — **Goalkeeper** — Signed from Notts County in July 1980. Made a number of first team appearances for Notts. An experienced keeper.

RESULTS

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ore 2-0 Att. 3,402
: Mansfield Town:
Allen & Hamilton
Athletic: Hutchinson

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PLAYER

Mark Wiganll
(Midfield)

Birthplace: Preston, Lancashire

Place of Residence: Bamber Bridge,
near Preston.

Date of Birth: 6th December, 1962

Height: 5'8"

Weight: 10st. 7lbs.

Previous Professional Club:

Blackpool as an Associate

Schoolboy

Advice to Youngsters: Train hard,
work at your skills and when your
chance comes, have the
confidence to take it.

Mark made his Football League debut only recently for Wigan Athletic against Darlington on Saturday, 7th February, 1981. He became an overnight favourite of the critical Wigan crowd, who appreciated his skill, endeavour and courage in getting to grips with more physically endowed opponents. In his two games for the first team to date, he has twice drawn winning bonus. He missed last week's game at Port Vale because of injury, but he is expected to be recovered in time for today's test.



Photo by courtesy of The Wigan Reporter

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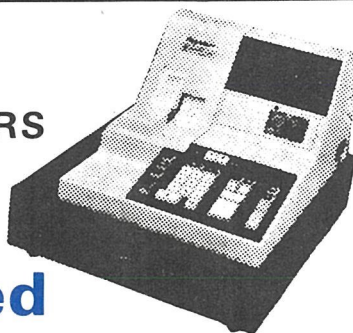
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WRITTEN QUOTATIONS ON REQUEST

GOOD AFTERNOON. The Supporters' Club Committee and staff welcome the team and supporters of Mansfield Town Football Club to Springfield Park.

I would like to thank all of you who supported our Star-Night last Sunday. The night was a great success with a "House Full" notice posted at 7.45 p.m. As a follow-up, we present on stage tomorrow, 22nd February, another tremendous act — "CRAFTY JACK". There will be a door charge of twenty-five pence. Tonight we have another good artist in Cliff North, a very popular character.

A mention of our latest club member, Mr. E. Woodcock of Wyoming, U.S.A. Mr. Woodcock joins half-a-dozen other foreign members, giving us a touch of the "Club International".

During the evening of Saturday, 28th February, we have the unveiling of a plaque, to commemorate the vast amount of work done for the club by the late PETER WOODS, who is very sadly missed by all of us.

Finally, just to remind you all of the Extra-

ordinary General Meeting, to be held in the club on Monday, 2nd March, 1981, at 8.00 p.m. We are looking forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Call in for a pint after the match.

Stuart Cooper.



THE decision at the recent Football League meeting to allow Sunday soccer is causing more than a little stir in its own way. Obviously, some of the smaller clubs adopted a cautious attitude, waiting for one of their band to initiate the scheme. Darlington stepped forward and last Sunday's game with Mansfield Town brought in nearly 6,000 fans — almost treble their expected attendance, had the game been played a day earlier.

Now Fourth Division clubs are beginning to act. Northampton Town will entertain Hereford United at the County Ground tomorrow, and both Tranmere Rovers and Bradford City are actively engaged in trying to get some of their games switched. Rochdale have jumped in feet first with a bid to stage their home game with Port Vale on the same Sunday that the town's Rugby League team entertain Doncaster. Meanwhile, York City have decided against home Sunday football, but will play away from home if the opposing club can offer the guarantee of a bigger gate. Port Vale asked "The Minstermen" to change the date of their clash, but the idea was scrapped when they found themselves unable to offer the assurance requested by York City. Incidentally, it is understood that only York City and A.F.C. Bournemouth voted for a plan to regionalise the Third and Fourth Divisions. In A.F.C. Bournemouth's case, miles from the rest of the soccer world, it is not too hard to see why they supported the idea.

On the field of play, Bradford City recently gave a debut to Alan Hebdict, a non-contract defender, against Halifax Town and Hartlepool United, have made yet another capture from the Northern League. Their latest

recruit is twenty years old midfielder man Neil Granycome of the South Bank club. Hartlepool United made news of a different kind last Saturday, when rightback John Linacre figured in one of the season's fastest dismissals. He was ordered to an early bath after just five minutes of the game with Northampton Town. Finally, Southend United defender Alan Moody was today expected to return to the first team at Hartlepool, some three months after breaking an ankle in the game against Wimbledon.

FOURTH DIVISION LEAGUE TABLE AS AT 19th FEBRUARY, 1981.

	P	W	Home			A	W	D	Away			Pts.
			D	L	F				L	F	A	
Southend United	33	16	1	0	36	3	7	3	6	21	18	50
Lincoln City	31	11	5	1	38	10	9	2	3	17	7	47
Mansfield Town	33	12	2	2	29	7	6	3	8	18	21	41
Doncaster Rovers	33	10	3	4	25	15	6	4	6	17	23	39
Hartlepool United	33	10	3	4	30	16	5	5	6	19	27	38
Peterborough Utd.	31	8	4	3	27	14	5	6	5	23	21	36
Aldershot	34	9	7	1	18	3	4	3	10	11	26	36
Bournemouth	34	8	5	4	21	13	6	2	9	12	21	35
Wimbledon	30	9	3	3	28	11	5	2	8	14	20	33
Rochdale	33	9	4	4	28	19	2	7	7	20	31	33
North'pton Town	34	10	2	5	34	19	3	5	9	15	35	33
Bradford City	33	6	8	2	21	14	4	5	8	17	29	33
Darlington	32	7	4	4	28	18	6	3	8	17	25	33
Wigan Athletic	34	9	4	4	22	13	4	3	10	12	29	33
Torquay United	33	10	1	5	29	17	4	3	10	13	29	32
Crewe Alexandra	35	6	6	6	20	19	3	6	8	17	30	30
Tranmere Rovers	31	10	2	3	30	13	1	4	11	11	32	28
Souththorpe Utd.	32	5	8	3	25	20	2	6	8	11	21	28
Stockport County	34	5	5	7	20	22	5	2	10	12	23	27
Bury	32	7	4	4	23	14	3	2	12	19	33	26
York City	32	8	2	6	26	14	1	6	9	7	28	26
Port Vale	31	7	4	4	27	15	1	3	12	12	41	23
Halifax Town	34	5	3	9	22	27	1	8	8	13	25	23
Hereford United	32	5	6	6	21	17	1	3	11	5	33	21



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SCENE & HEARD

HOW rapturously our readers welcomed the idea of a competition asking them to name their top team from non-league and, more latterly, Football League days!!! At the time of going to press only THREE replies have been received, so it is obvious that, if such is the interest within two days of the closing date for the receipt of entries, the prizes offered of two stand tickets for the winners of each category were insufficient to attract our readers to put pen to paper. Therefore we propose, with the compliments of the Commercial Department to award prizes to each of the three people who made the effort, and we are please to offer you their selections.

Mr. S.J. Halliwell of 20, Conway Road, Hindley Green, Wigan offered the following, in 4-3-3 formation as his best non-league line-up:-

Dennis Reeves — Derek Houghton, Alf Craig, Ian Gillibrand, Billy Sutherland — Gordon Milne, Jim Fleming, Graham Oates — Harry Penk, Harry Lyon, Bert Llewellyn. The substitute nominated was Micky Worswick, who was described as versatile, enthusiastic and at home in attack or midfield.

Mr. Karl Purcell of 9, Beaford Close, Pemberton, Wigan chose, in 4-4-2 formation, the following as his best Football League line-up to date: **John Brown — Dave**

Fretwell, Colin Methven, Neil Davids, Joe Hinnigan — Frank Corrigan, Jeff Wright, Tommy Gore, Maurice Whittle — Mike Quinn, Peter Houghton.

The chosen substitute was Bobby Hutchinson, since Karl felt that when the team was down, Bobby would inspire his colleagues by his running and ability in the air. He also feels that Bobby fits nicely into midfield or attack, where he can be used tactically. Wherever he plays, he can be relied upon to give a 110% effort!

Finally, not to be outdone, Derek Sharples of 17, Holden Lea, Westhoughton, Nr. Bolton, nominates the following team in 4-3-3 formation across 20 years of loyal support. He argues that the team would beat anything at Fourth Division level or non-league level. **David Gaskell — Derek Houghton, Alf Craig, Denis Crompton, Billy Sutherland — John Ryan, Tommy Gore, Jim Fleming — Derek Temple, Geoff Davies, Mick Worswick.** The substitute would be Harry Lyon, because he gave 100% total commitment and effort in every position he played for the club, including goalkeeper.

We would be most grateful if the three gentlemen concerned could contact us and let us know which one of the five remaining home games they would like to attend as our guests.

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LATICS AWAY

**SATURDAY,
28th FEBRUARY, 1981.**

KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.

Football League Division Four

BURY

- V -

WIGAN ATHLETIC

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The Chairman's Column

IT GIVES me no pleasure to have taken the steps we have taken this week in relieving Ian McNeill of his team duties. I am as aware as any of Ian's past record and work for the club, but I am also realistic enough to consider the present and the future, and not just previous events.

People are well aware that I am a close personal friend of Ian McNeill, and relieving him of his responsibilities has not been easy, but it had to be done. It was obvious that some action was needed, and nothing brought it home to me more forcibly than seeing the unacceptable performance put up at Port Vale, when following a little smattering of success in recent games, we attracted eight coach-loads of loyal support. I can assure you that I felt the dismay and despair as much as they did.

My feelings for Ian McNeill cannot be outweighed by the desire for the progress which we must achieve in the future. The vacant position will be advertised, and we are open for applications, whether the post sought be a team manager or player manager. We will go for the best and we will obtain the best, even though we are losing a considerable amount of money each week at the present time. I honestly feel that if the team-management is right, all will eventually fall into place.

I am very sad to report that two of my directors, Messrs. Graham Gorner and Brian Connolly have decided to leave the Board. Their resignations have been reluctantly accepted. Since both are men who have worked hard for the club, we are very sorry to see them go, but both held very strong feelings on the Ian McNeill issue.

Fred Eyre and Dave Brooks have taken temporary control of team affairs, while we review our situation and deliberate about Ian McNeill's successor. As you well know, since my arrival at the club, I have tried very hard not to make ripples or changes at any level of the club's activities, but the time had come when something had to be done. The men on the terraces matter very much to me, as I have said before, and I believe as strongly as ever, that we are still not giving them the best deal possible. We aim to give them a better deal in the future.

Yours sincerely,
Freddie Pye

Freddie Pye
Chairman

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TEAMS

**Wigan
Athletic**
(Royal Blue
& White Stripes)

Bob Ward

John Curtis

Steve McAdam

Alex Cribley

Colin Methven

Dave Fretwell

George Urquhart

Tony Quinn

Mick Quinn

Peter Houghton

Jeff Wright

Mark Wignall

**Mansfield
Town**
(Amber/Blue)

1 Rod Arnold

2 Les McJannet

3 Ian Wood

4 Neville Hamilton

5 John McClelland

6 Adey Burrows

7 Rus Allen

8 Arthur Mann

9 David Caldwell

10 Noel Parkinson

11 Brian Thomson

12 Brian Pollard

OFFICIALS

Referee:

MR. D. OWEN
(Wirral)

Joined the Football League in 1972 having gained promotion through the Northern Premier, Cheshire County, West Cheshire and Chester Leagues. Refereed the Northern Premier League Challenge Shield in 1976/1977. Lined Quarter Final of Football League Cup in 1973/74 and 1975/6, plus several F.A. Challenge Cup appointments, and also lined a European Cup Quarter Final in 1980. Keen on most sports with emphasis on physical fitness and takes a keen interest in local Referee's Society and is a member of the Management Committee of the West Cheshire League. Has one son and one daughter and is an inspector with a leading Insurance Company. His wife and family play an active part in many sports.

Linesmen:

Red Flag

Mr. L.R. Dilkes
(Mossley)

Yellow Flag

Mr. R.J. Millward
(Stafford)

HERE NEXT

Saturday, 7th March, 1981.
Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

**WIGAN ATHLETIC -v-
ROCHDALE**
Football League Division Four